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Chairman: Mr. Penke ..... (Latvia)

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The meeting was called to order at 3.05 p.m.

Agenda item 61: Social development (*continued*) (A/64/180 and A/64/65)

(a) Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly (*continued*) (A/64/157, A/64/158 and A/64/158/Corr.1)

(b) Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family (*continued*) (A/64/61-E/2009/3, A/64/132, A/64/132/Corr.1 and A/64/134)

(c) Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing (*continued*) (A/64/127)

1. **Mr. Tachie-Menson** (Ghana) said that while his delegation was encouraged by the progress made towards reducing the level of absolute poverty, it was regrettable that the number of poor people had increased in Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, the Middle East, North Africa and Central Asia. Climate change and the global financial crisis had exacerbated the difficult socio-economic conditions arising from the food and fuel crisis in many developing countries.

2. Ghana had been implementing policies with a strong emphasis on social protection, chief among them the National Social Protection Strategy. A key component of that programme was the Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP), which provided cash transfers to the extreme poor, orphans and other vulnerable children, the elderly poor and persons with severe disabilities. It was projected that 35,000 households would benefit from the LEAP initiative by December 2009. Other social protection and poverty reduction interventions included a microfinance program targeting poor women, a national health insurance initiative and a public school feeding programme.

3. The National Council on Persons with Disability had been established in April 2009 to facilitate the implementation of the Persons With Disability Act of 2006. His Government was also revising its policies on ageing in order to address the special needs and protect the fundamental rights of the aged. In addition, a new national youth policy had been devised, and the National Youth Employment Programme had created over 100,000 jobs for youth since its establishment in 2007. Lastly, a national apprenticeship programme was providing vocational skills training for high school graduates unable to continue their education.

4. **Ms. Becerra** (Peru), speaking as a youth delegate, said that her country would have to tackle the challenge of economic inequality by equipping youth with the necessary tools to thrive in the era of globalization. The inability of low-income Latin American youth to access quality education intensified the cycle of poverty in the region. Comprehensive educational reforms would be needed to break that cycle, as would vocational training, such as that provided by the Peruvian Ministry of Labour to youths through its PROJoven programme. Nevertheless, without also addressing factors like hunger and chronic malnutrition, which could hinder mental and physical growth in children, such Government efforts would be futile. Indeed, food security remained a daily challenge for millions of Latin Americans living under the poverty line.

5. Most alarming was the fact that 86 per cent of Latin Americans living in extreme poverty hailed from middle-income countries, but the international community refused to allocate them more financial and cash resources to combat poverty, believing that those countries already had sufficient means. While Peru had made progress towards poverty reduction, it was essential that humanitarian agencies such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) continued to support Government efforts in that area, as over a third of the country's population remained below the poverty line.

6. With regard to climate change, she noted that Peru was one of the countries most vulnerable to the effects of global warming, despite being responsible for only about 1 per cent of greenhouse gas emissions. A concrete example was the melting of the Pastoruri glacier in the Andes, which had led to a water supply crisis in the coastal and mountainous regions of the country. Deforestation resulting from illegal logging was another environmental issue of concern. Technical and financial cooperation between countries would be needed in order to assist middle-income countries in mitigating the harmful effects of climate change.

7. **Mr. bin Baishan** (Saudi Arabia) said that the discrimination experienced by older persons went

unnoticed due to the absence of a comprehensive international convention on their rights. His country's experience in caring for the elderly dated back to the 1953 establishment of a special nursing home, which had eventually come under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs. The Ministry had since adopted a national action plan for the elderly based on social customs and the Islamic precepts of parental kinship and filial duty.

8. Efforts undertaken by his Government in the field of elderly care included providing an adequate source of income to aged persons after retirement, establishing national coordination mechanisms among governmental and community organizations providing elderly care, and encouraging the private sector to establish centres for the provision of services to the elderly. Care for the elderly was provided in the home as well as through charitable community organizations and private institutions supervised by or affiliated with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.

9. A national committee on elderly care had been established to develop programmes and collect data and statistics in order to meet their needs. Economic support was extended to all older persons based on their employment history.

10. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia was participating actively in international and regional conferences on ageing, such as the second World Assembly on Ageing held in Madrid, Spain in 2002, and was working towards implementation of recommendations made at the Assembly.

11. **Ms. Sapag** (Chile) reiterated the importance of continued implementation of international recommendations on the issue of ageing. In that connection, her Government had held the third follow-up meeting on the 2007 Brasilia Declaration earlier that month, under the auspices of the National Service for Older People (SENAMA). Her delegation also supported the drafting of a convention on the rights of older persons and the appointment of a Special Rapporteur.

12. Chile welcomed the report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the second World Assembly on Ageing. By citing the mistreatment, violence and neglect faced by older persons as grave violations of their rights, the report illustrated the need to strengthen mechanisms that would uphold those rights. Chile had organized its policy on the aged around three key objectives, namely, guaranteeing respect for the rights of older persons, creating a social safety net for them and promoting their social inclusion. Women over 60 would directly benefit from pension reform measures currently being considered. In addition, civil society organizations had been instrumental in the implementation of recommendations made in the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing.

13. **Mrs. Shawish** (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) said that despite the international community's commitment to implementing the objectives of the 1995 World Summit on Social Development, the global financial and economic crisis, coupled with the failure of advanced countries to meet their commitments, had contributed significantly to the rise in poverty and unemployment, the spread of infectious diseases and the lack of social security, repercussions felt most by the poor. Her delegation called on the international community and global financial institutions and donors to fulfil the commitments made at the World Summit for Social Development and in the Millennium Declaration.

14. Since the 1970s, Libya had adopted policies aimed at renewing society by attending to the needs of different groups within it and focusing specifically on youth. In that connection, her country had hosted a World Youth Forum in 2007, at which recommendations had been made on encouraging youth participation in the political arena and in decision-making bodies, in addition to promoting job creation. Libya had also launched a project to combat poverty, unemployment and diseases on the African continent in 2006.

15. Based on its belief that persons with special needs had an important role to play in bringing about social renewal, her Government had acceded to the International Convention on the Rights of Persons With Disabilities in 2008. Furthermore, it supported United Nations efforts to implement the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing and affirmed its commitment to the Programme of Action of the World Summit on Social Development. Libya had adopted a number of economic and social policies to ensure the efficient use of financial resources allocated for social development.

16. **Ms. Sabja** (Bolivia) said that the Plurinational State of Bolivia promoted the VIVIR BIEN (Live Well) development model based on complementarity and solidarity among peoples and enjoyment of natural resources in harmony with nature and other human

beings. That model, in turn, served as the basis for the national development plan, which aimed to create a dignified, democratic, productive and sovereign Bolivia.

17. In that development model, the State assumed the role of guarantor of human rights and collective well-being. The New Political Constitution reaffirmed the rights to life, food sovereignty, decent work and universal access to potable water among other basic services. Furthermore, Bolivia offered free, universal health care to all its citizens, and it had recently become the third country in Latin America to eradicate illiteracy.

18. Under the National Housing Plan, decent housing had been built and made available to the most vulnerable populations, which consisted of indigenous families for the most part. A new agrarian reform law had granted communities deeds that allowed them to farm their land and maintain livestock within the context of a cooperative economy.

19. The New Political Constitution had established a normative framework for the elimination of all forms of discrimination, most notably those that targeted indigenous peoples, and it also included provisions that protected the rights of persons with disabilities. Moreover, the Constitution guaranteed the protection and active participation of youth in all facets of the development process, in addition to guaranteeing the rights of older adults. Bolivia was addressing the demographic challenge posed by the rising number of older persons by adopting public policies that ensured their enjoyment of all their rights and promoted their economic well-being.

20. While significant progress towards a society for all had been made on several fronts, many challenges remained, owing mainly to the devastation wrought by the global financial and economic crisis, along with the food and energy crises. In order to face those challenges and effectively build more inclusive societies, national efforts would have to be supplemented by strengthened international cooperation and the provision of technical assistance.

21. **Mr. Kpayedo** (Togo) said that the economic, financial, food and energy crises the world was facing had abruptly derailed the progress made on social issues since the Copenhagen Summit in 1995 and the Millennium Summit in 2000. In light of the devastating impact of those crises, urgent action at both the national and global levels was necessary in order to reduce poverty and improve living conditions around the world. Togo, a country whose population boom was adversely affecting the State's ability to meet the basic needs of its people, had adopted specific measures to achieve sustainable development and address the population issue. Some examples included the establishment of a national committee to follow up on the International Conference on Population and Development, a nationwide survey and an overhaul of national population policy in order to address current realities.

22. With regard to poverty eradication, his Government had formulated a comprehensive poverty reduction strategy in conjunction with target populations and all relevant actors working in the area of development. The Government initiative sought to improve living conditions through reinforcing political and economic governance, developing human capital and reducing regional inequalities. The Comprehensive Document on the Poverty Reduction Strategy for the years 2009 to 2011 listed the main priority measures adopted and provided an in-depth look at the economic and social situation in order to allow for optimal allocation of resources in tackling various goals directly related to poverty reduction, such as improving health services, promoting gender equality and facilitating access to potable water.

23. Turning to employment, he noted that his Government had created jobs in the health sector for nearly 5,000 youths, including a number of persons with disabilities, in addition to increasing the minimum wage by 100 per cent.

24. Given that nearly 70 per cent of the Togolese population was between 15 and 35 years of age, it was evident that youth would have a crucial role in the sustainable development process. Bearing that in mind, the Government had developed a national youth policy that addressed their concerns, recognized them as development partners and facilitated their access to State programmes and services. Furthermore, the National Youth Council had been established in 2008 to coordinate action towards implementation of the national youth policy.

25. His Government had ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2008, and was actively working to implement it through such measures as vocational training programmes and

affirmative action initiatives aimed at ensuring the professional integration of persons with disabilities.

26. **Mr. Muita** (Kenya) said that several regions of the world would fall far short of reaching the Millennium Development Goals. While some countries had reduced their poverty levels, the absolute number of poor people in Africa, Latin America and Asia was growing. As previous efforts had focused on short-term crises rather than longer-term solutions, more investment was needed in human resources, particularly in education, health and job creation. Kenya's Vision 2030 economic development plan included ambitious but attainable long-term goals and emphasized partnerships and resource mobilization.

27. The family should be supported and involved in all aspects of decision-making. Yet despite Kenya's sweeping reforms, the lack of sufficient resources made it difficult to meet the needs of young people and to address unemployment, HIV/AIDS and delinquency. A review of Kenya's Economic Recovery Strategy for Wealth and Employment Creation 2003-2007 had shown that, with policy planning, implementation monitoring and accountability, progress could be achieved.

28. Kenya's successful campaigns against HIV/AIDS meant that Goal 6 would certainly be achieved. A national job creation programme would give priority to young people in both formal and informal employment and a youth-friendly resource centre had been established.

29. Kenya was committed to the United Nations Principles for Older Persons as contained in the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing. A total of $2.6 million had been set aside for protection programmes and a pilot scheme for financial support for older persons would eventually cover the whole country.

30. Despite the global recession and increasing competition among priorities, there had been some successes in various countries. The sharing of good practices would benefit all and sharing responsibility was the only way to achieve the social development of all societies.

31. **Mr. Kleib** (Indonesia) said that rapid progress in science, technology, education and health had increased social tensions and inequalities worldwide, with multiple crises intensifying the adverse impacts on the most vulnerable groups. However, the renewed confidence in multilateralism reflected a more positive phase in international cooperation. At the current session, the Committee should respond to the crises by developing strategies for placing people at the centre of development. Income generation alone was not sufficient to eradicate poverty. Growth with equity, human dignity and social justice would be achieved by addressing persistent inequalities and the needs of disadvantaged groups.

32. Indonesia, the world's fourth most populous nation and third largest democracy, was promoting socially integrative policies. Its democracy was based on the indigenous principle of mutual assistance, and the family unit was a priority area of Indonesia's long-term development programme. Family policies were designed to ensure productive employment and decent work, while social protection measures included pension provisions, work insurance and health and child benefits. There were a number of programmes to promote income-generating activities, including small business loans, for poor families. As cooperatives were the backbone of the Indonesian economy and had proved resilient in times of crisis, his Government welcomed the proposal to promote cooperatives and raise awareness of their socio-economic contribution.

33. Indonesia was strengthening its legal framework on youth issues to help young people to achieve their potential and was close to achieving the national objective of universal education. Gender focal points and working groups of line ministries and development agencies were mainstreaming gender and addressing the challenges posed by the current economic and financial crises. Other social policies included the National Plan of Action for Persons with Disabilities and a National Action Plan on Ageing.

34. In the current downturn, short-term stability and long-term development were both important. Social protection was central to inclusive growth with poverty reduction, and human resources development was a key element for breaking the intergenerational cycle of poverty. Indonesia had organized the Bali Democracy Forum in December 2008 as the first Asian intergovernmental forum on democracy and would continue to support it as a learning exchange for the international community.

35. **Ms. Rivas Pérez** (Dominican Republic), speaking as her country's youth delegate, said that the

Dominican Republic was aware that investment in the young generation was a contribution to the nation's future. It was also essential to involve young people in the search for solutions to the challenges of globalization, and the youth delegates at the General Assembly were one of many positive examples of their inclusion in international forums.

36. Although many young workers were overqualified for their posts, others with few academic qualifications had limited options. Yet many were obliged to leave their studies in order to generate an income. All Member States should provide young people with opportunities for decent and productive work to support fulfilment of the Millennium Development Goals.

37. Young people were as vulnerable as other groups to environmental degradation. It was important to raise awareness of such issues as climate change, since the impact on future generations would be even stronger. Increased energy consumption, the growing world population and vast social differences were all factors contributing to climate change. The Dominican Republic, as an island State, was also affected by factors such as variations in sea levels and natural disasters. Effective measures should be implemented to guarantee the right to a healthy environment.

38. The guidelines and goals of the World Programme of Action for Youth would change the lives of millions of young people throughout the world. Her country had promulgated the General Law on Youth in 2000 and had reviewed its youth policies in 2008. Wasting the potential of young people was an impediment to economic growth.

39. **Ms. Kenewendo** (Botswana), speaking as her country's youth delegate, said that youth unemployment was a significant challenge in Botswana and that poverty was a problem, especially in rural areas. The prevalence of HIV/AIDS was decreasing, but the disease had already had a negative impact on productive labour, orphaning many children and leaving many people destitute.

40. Botswana had been the third poorest country in the world in 1966 but had come to be a middle-income country through collaboration with Governments and multilateral agencies from all over the world. In developing its youth organizations, Botswana was focusing on the areas of management and administration, substantive ideas and resource mobilization.

41. Botswana was willing to collaborate actively with youth departments and organizations across the globe and wished to learn from and share its experiences with others. The success of the national development programme would depend on the success of youth empowerment and development initiatives.

42. Her Government allocated 30 per cent of the annual national budget to education. Substantial resources were also used to provide credit facilities to young people for agriculture and small businesses, while a national internship programme was available for university graduates. All ministries had youth officers to deal with youth-specific issues and significant efforts were made to provide sports infrastructure and promote community-level participation in sports.

43. She reiterated an open invitation to the global community to engage in mutually beneficial partnerships in youth development. The participation of youth delegates offered opportunities for planting the seeds of global integration and lasting friendships among nations, while providing useful training to the leaders of tomorrow.

44. **Mr. Sinfungpunkaree** (Thailand), speaking as a youth delegate, said that young people today faced many challenges and problems while they lived with the consequences of decisions taken by previous generations. Yet their voices tended to be marginalized, although they could contribute to developing more effective solutions to major concerns such as equality in education, global warming and poverty.

45. Equal opportunity was the best tool for creating equality and justice in society as a whole. As a child in a Yao hill village in northern Thailand, he had been fortunate to be able to attend school and wished other children to have the same opportunity. The United Nations could help countries to understand that education policies were only effective if based on equal opportunity.

46. One of the main obstacles to youth development was lack of access to health care. Despite his Government's efforts to promote universal health-care services, problems still persisted, especially in border and rural areas. All States should ensure that

underprivileged children fully enjoyed their human rights and had the means to live in health and dignity.

47. **Ms. Limskul** (Thailand), speaking as a youth delegate, said that the international community tended to focus on the consequences of inequality, rather than taking real action on inequality itself. Inequality was also a factor to consider when addressing global warming, as its impacts were not dispersed equally.

48. Poverty was another aspect of inequality: the poor lacked equal access to resources and were marginalized from economic and social structures. Rather than working to raise income, the international community should work to ensure that the least privileged groups had equal access to social protection, health care and other resources.

49. Her Government promoted a welfare-based and rights-based society that would guarantee universal education, universal health care and equal opportunity for all. Promotion of an equal and just society was the best way to tackle poverty.

50. Young people in all countries were a major human resource for development and key agents for social change, economic development and technological innovation. If they were given the opportunities to fulfil their potential, society could benefit from their energy, perspectives and creative ideas.

51. **Ms. Blum** (Colombia) noted that the goal of social integration was to create a society that included all social groups and individuals in political, social and economic structures. A consensus based on solidarity was needed, that reduced exclusion to a minimum and supported disadvantaged people, so that they too could contribute to development.

52. Efforts to build a more equitable and inclusive society were the foundation of Colombian development policies. Despite the global crises, the Government continued to implement social equity and poverty reduction policies, making major investments in infrastructure, education, health and other areas to build human and social capital. National and local programmes were designed to enable the poorest and most vulnerable to have access to goods and services and sustainable opportunities for income generation.

53. The main objective of national social policy was to ensure access to quality education, social security benefits, labour markets and social promotion mechanisms for all Colombians. Human resource development was a key component of development strategies and occupational training was essential for creating an inclusive society. The National Learning Service, a technical training institution, had accepted over 6 million students in 2008 and the goal was to have 6.2 million places by the end of 2009.

54. Social protection programmes contributed to reducing poverty, vulnerability and persistent inequalities. As of March 2009, 90 per cent of the population (about 40 million persons) had access to health care. A State-subsidized programme covered over 20 million, including the unemployed, informal workers, the poor, indigenous populations and displaced persons. Universal coverage should be achieved in 2010.

55. The expanded programme on immunization and the Integrated Management of Childhood Illnesses contributed to progress towards Millennium Development Goals 4 and 5. The sexual and reproductive health policy, which included maternal mortality prevention and monitoring, was a priority at both national and local levels.

56. Some particularly vulnerable social groups suffered various forms of discrimination. Initiatives had been implemented to generate more stable income for young people and to expand their training and access to the labour market. The national policy on ageing granted benefits to persons over 62 years of age to ensure their rights to education, recreation and health were being met and to improve their general living conditions.

57. Colombia's disability policy helped persons with disabilities to achieve maximum independence and participation in civic life. National initiatives helped institutions and public and private organizations to remove barriers to their participation and improved the quality and timeliness of access to rehabilitation services.

58. The international community as a whole benefited from efforts to build an inclusive, equitable and fair society. International cooperation, technical assistance and technology transfer should also be strengthened. Despite the economic crisis, priority should be given to social investments to reduce poverty, inequalities and discrimination.

59. **Ms. Al Kendi** (United Arab Emirates) said that her country had achieved significant progress in the areas of social and economic development. The United Arab Emirates had managed to contain the financial crisis by taking a number of precautionary measures aimed at avoiding disruption of social and economic development projects and ensuring that individual and family income levels remained stable.

60. In 2009, the United Arab Emirates had allocated 23 per cent of the national budget to the educational sector, bringing about qualitative and quantitative improvements in educational curricula. With regard to housing, health and social protection, her Government had adopted a comprehensive strategic plan for 2008-2010 that guaranteed the fundamental rights of all members of society, including the aged, children and persons with disabilities, as well as universal access to basic services.

61. As women constituted half of society and were equal to men in rights and responsibilities, her Government had provided women with the education and training they needed in order to participate fully in society. As a result, women currently accounted for 63 per cent of the work force and were part of the decision-making process, enjoying representation in the executive, legislative and judicial branches of Government.

62. The United Arab Emirates had adopted various legislative measures to regulate the job market, bringing it in line with international employment laws and standards that protected the rights of workers and the interests of employers. Over 2.5 billion dirhams had been allocated to health care, also deemed a top priority. Her country was working to combat infectious diseases, such as the H1N1 virus, by making vaccines available; it called upon the international community to spare no effort in coordinating cooperation against such diseases. The United Arab Emirates had also provided over 70 billion dollars in financial and material assistance to countries stricken by poverty, conflict and natural disasters through a number of national and international civil society institutions. In addition, the State had recently established an office for the coordination of charitable aid, the first of its kind in the Middle East.

63. **Mr. Argüello** (Argentina) said that his Government supported social advocacy and assistance measures that promoted social integration and human development, the provision of services and equal opportunities for vulnerable groups, protection of the family and strengthening of community organizations. Argentina was committed to a democratic and inclusive society with respect for human rights, and it recognized the role of the State in countering social exclusion. Public policies reflected that conviction.

64. The ageing of the population was a gradual but relentless process in Latin America and the Caribbean. In absolute terms, the number of persons aged over 60 years in 2000 had been 41 million; that figure would increase by 57 million by 2025. The proportion of persons aged over 60 years would quadruple between 2000 and 2050. Yet the international community was not allocating sufficient human and financial resources to address the issue and to fully implement the Madrid Plan of Action. Argentina would continue to work with other countries to strengthen the national, regional and international mechanisms that guaranteed the rights of older persons and their well-being, including through consideration of a legally binding instrument.

65. Argentina was working to ensure that persons with disabilities enjoyed the full exercise of their rights. The Government's Families for Social Inclusion programme was moving away from conditional income transfers to focus on efforts to support families and encourage their participation in improving their quality of life. Public policies should give young people opportunities by providing training programmes, first employment opportunities and opportunities for participation in economic, social and cultural development. Cooperativism and an economy of solidarity were State policy and cooperatives and mutual associations were supported as a form of participatory, democratic and distributive ownership. The social economy was a key element of Argentina's approach. Human rights and development could not be considered separate public policy issues as measures in either area had an impact on the other and affected the social texture of the whole community.

66. **Ms. Stewart** (International Labour Organization) said that the participants in the Summit on the Global Jobs Crisis organized by the International Labour Organization (ILO) in June 2009 had adopted a Global Jobs Pact, which offered guidance for national and international policies to stimulate economic recovery and provide protection for workers and their families, while reducing the time needed to return to economic

growth and employment recovery. Crisis-response measures could be adapted to countries' specific situations and included measures to keep people in employment, support enterprises and accelerate job creation recovery, as well as social protection systems. Social dialogue would play an important role in determining the most effective measures for recovery and international labour standards would make an essential contribution.

67. The number of young persons unemployed at the end of 2009 was estimated at between 78 and 90 million. The Global Job Pact called for measures to support young people at risk, including the mainstreaming of youth employment in national development frameworks, national action plans for youth employment and packages of training programmes, job-placement schemes and measures to promote youth entrepreneurship.

68. ILO was collecting data on youth employment, analysing the effectiveness of labour market policies and programmes and collaborating with multilateral and other international institutions to ensure policy coherence in national initiatives affecting youth employment. It was working with other United Nations agencies and some national actors to strengthen national capacity to address the risks of irregular youth migration.

69. Ageing of the global population meant that more people were retiring and living longer, while young people were entering the labour market in smaller numbers and at a later age, which called into question the sustainability of social security systems. Age-specific legislation had shown mixed results and new thinking was needed to create an environment that set the right incentives, encouraged the right behaviours and allowed for adjustment. ILO was preparing a report on the new global demographic and labour force trends and key challenges for employment and social protection systems, with proposals for policy responses.

70. Changing dynamics in families and gender roles made it necessary to analyse female labour market participation carefully. The lack of effective measures for reconciling work and family responsibilities limited development. The State and all social actors should cooperate to find solutions, with a focus on public policies to make work and family life compatible. ILO Convention No. 156, concerning workers with family responsibilities (1981), was the key international labour standard in that area. It called on States to prevent any form of discrimination against workers with family responsibilities.

71. A recently published ILO study in Latin America and the Caribbean had analysed the profound transformation in work and family situations in the region, evaluated existing legal and policy frameworks and elaborated public policy proposals and recommendations on how to promote a better work-family balance in order to ensure gender equality at work.

72. ILO would soon publish "Workplace solutions for childcare", a book to help policy-makers and social partners to build partnerships and find practical solutions for childcare. In the framework of ILO global and national strategies to promote Millennium Development Goals 4 and 5, a maternity protection resource kit was being prepared in partnership with the World Health Organization.

The meeting rose at 5.00 p.m.